

A regular meeting of the Michigan State Employees' Retirement System Board was held at the State Secondary Complex, General Office Building, First Floor, Conference Room A, Lansing, Michigan, on January 24, 2008. The following members, staff and observers participated:

Members Present: David Dekker, Employee Member
Douglas Drake, Retiree Member
George Elworth representing the Attorney General
Calvin Frappier, Retiree Member
Vernon Johnson, representing the State Treasurer
Daniel McLellan, representing the Director of Civil Service
Craig Murray, representing the Deputy Auditor General

Staff Present: Phil Stoddard, Executive Secretary
Kathy Ciaramella, Recording Secretary

Others Present: Thomas Schimpf, of the Attorney General's Office; Larry Brya, of the Attorney General's Office; Janet Ketchum, of the Retirement Coordinating Council; Sue Rausch, of Disability Determination Services; Tim McCormick, of the Office of Retirement Services; and visitor Cara Frappier

Call to Order

Chair Douglas Drake called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

Excusing of Absent Members

Daniel McLellan moved, David Dekker supported, to excuse the absence of John Schoonmaker. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Daniel McLellan moved, Harry Posner supported, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

Executive Secretary Phil Stoddard asked the Nominating Committee for recommendations for the Office of Chair. On behalf of the Committee, Calvin Frappier nominated Douglas Drake for the Office of Chair. Mr. Stoddard asked if there were any further nominations from the floor. Being no further nominations, Mr. Stoddard closed the nominations and a roll call vote was taken unanimously approving Douglas Drake for the Office of Chair.

Chair Douglas Drake asked the Nominating Committee for recommendations for the Office of Vice Chair. On behalf of the Committee, Calvin Frappier nominated John Schoonmaker for the Office of Vice Chair. Mr. Drake asked if there were further nominations from the floor. Being no further nominations, Mr. Drake closed the nominations and a voice vote was taken unanimously approving John Schoonmaker for the Office of Vice Chair.

Approval of Minutes

George Elworth moved, Craig Murray supported, to approve the meeting minutes of December 13, 2007, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Disability Retirement Applications

Non-Duty Disability Retirement Applications

Daniel McLellan moved, Vernon Johnson supported, to approve the non-duty disability applications 2, 3, 5 – 7, and 9 – 12, as presented in the Supplemental Information to the Agenda, 7A, except applications 1, 4, and 8. The motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, George Elworth moved, Harry Posner supported, to approve application 1 with the provision of a 1-year re-examination. The motion carried with a 7 to 1 vote.

Following discussion, George Elworth moved, David Dekker supported, to approve application 4 with the provision of a 2-year re-examination. The motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Daniel McLellan moved, Harry Posner supported, to approve application 8, as presented in the Supplemental Information to the Agenda, 7A. The motion carried with a 7 to 1 vote.

Duty Disability Retirement Applications

George Elworth moved, Vernon Johnson supported, to approve the duty disability application 1- 1, as presented in the Supplemental Information to the Agenda, 7B. The motion carried unanimously.

Non-Duty Disability Re-examination Case

George Elworth moved, Craig Murray supported, to approve the non-duty disability re-examination case 1 – 1, as presented in the Supplemental Information to the Agenda, 7C. The motion carried unanimously.

Returning Disability Retirement Applications

David Dekker moved, Daniel McLellan supported, to approve the returning application 1 – 1, as presented in the Supplemental Information to the Agenda, 7D. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Application for Good Cause

Daniel McLellan moved, George Elworth supported, to deny the applicant's request to extend the time limit for filing a disability retirement application for failing to present sufficient evidence of extenuating circumstances. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrative Hearings

Proposal for Decision – Docket 2007-AH045

The Board considered the case materials. Daniel McLellan moved, Vernon Johnson supported, that the Board adopt as its own the recommendation of the Presiding Officer in the Proposal for Decision dated November 14, 2007, including the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, except for the changes requested by Respondent, and deny duty disability retirement benefits to Petitioner, using the form of decision and order offered by Respondent. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposal for Decision – Docket 2007-3689-SERS

The Board considered the case materials. Daniel McLellan moved, Craig Murray supported, that the Board adopt as its own the recommendation of the Presiding Officer in the Proposal for Decision dated October 24, 2007, including the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law except for the changes requested by Respondent, and deny non-duty disability retirement benefits to Petitioner, using the form of decision and order offered by Respondent. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposal for Decision – Docket 2007-AH040

The Board considered the case materials. Daniel McLellan moved, Vernon Johnson supported, that the Board adopt as its own the recommendation of the Presiding Officer in the Proposal for Decision dated September 24, 2007, including the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law except for the changes requested by Respondent, and deny duty and non-duty disability retirement benefits to Petitioner, using the form of decision and order offered by Respondent. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposal for Decision – Docket 2007-AH034

The Board considered the case materials. Vernon Johnson moved, Harry Posner supported, that the Board adopt as its own the recommendation of the Presiding Officer in the Proposal for Decision dated October 15, 2007, including the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law except for the changes requested by Respondent, and deny duty and non-duty disability retirement benefits to Petitioner, using the form of decision and order offered by Respondent. The motion carried with two abstentions.

Proposal for Decision – Docket 2007-AH049

The Board considered the case materials. Daniel McLellan moved, Vernon Johnson supported, that the Board adopt as its own the recommendation of the Presiding Officer in the Proposal for Decision dated October 20, 2007, including the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law except for the changes requested by Respondent, and deny

Petitioner duty disability retirement benefits, using the form of decision and order offered by Respondent. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposal for Decision – Docket 2006-AH075

The Board considered the case materials. Daniel McLellan moved, Calvin Frappier supported, that the Board reject as its own the recommendation of the Presiding Officer in the Proposal for Decision dated November 5, 2007, including the proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and deny duty and non-duty disability retirement benefits based upon Respondent's exceptions and the administrative record, using the form of decision and order offered by Respondent. The motion carried unanimously.

Legislative Report

The current report was included in the agenda packet.

Board Comment

- David Dekker complimented staff on the notebooks and the use of the new matrix. He requested highlighting changes in the returned information.
- Calvin Frappier commented on Al Trierweiler's illness.
- Assistant Attorney General Larry Brya gave an update on the Rules.
- Executive Secretary Phil Stoddard gave a brief report on Health Care Reform.


Public Comment

No comments were received.

Adjournment

Vernon Johnson moved, Daniel McLellan supported, to adjourn the meeting at 3:01 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

OFFICIAL MINUTES


Chair
Executive Secretary